

Armipotent 1571

Chapter 1571 The Descendant of The Dragon Guardian

Centurion teleported back to his room. Using his authority as an overseer, he broke the rule by interfering with the trial directly. The worst consequence would be losing his class. The lighter punishment would be fighting the Void Creature or Calamity to free more abandoned worlds for the players. But he was ready for the consequences in order to save his sister.

"Hahhhh...."

The white-haired vampire let out a long sigh and looked at his left hand. The hand that held the red blood shield. His left hand trembled, and his fingers and wrist were hurting as well. That was him, blocking Tang Shaoyang's sword. Deep inside, he was shocked by how heavy and powerful the strike was. If not for his God Rank shield, he might not be able to block the sword.

That was the reason why he tried to amend the relationship with Tang Shaoyang after he failed to kill Tang Shaoyang. Tang Shaoyang would just keep getting stronger, and he might surpass his grandfather. Having someone like Tang Shaoyang targeting the Valentine Family was grave.

Centurion shook his head and stored his equipment before heading toward the control room. He must watch and take note of Tang Shaoyang's spirits. It was the preparation for the worst. If they could not reconcile with Tang Shaoyang, then his family would be ready for the spirits.

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On another side of the trial's area, a party of four, Ian Carmen Lorentia, Agnes Neteri Iosava, Castor Bach Justesen, and a new member were having a break, taking shelter under a giant tree. The three reunited and formed the party for the last stage. It was Ian who invited them to form a party with him.

Agnes and Castor had no reason to decline the invitation from Ian who was clearly on another level above them. If not for Tang Shaoyang, Ian might be the one who had that gem crown.

The fourth member was Ian's acquaintance, someone from the Dragon Realm, the descendant of one of the Dragon Guardians, Zonaras. He was a half-dragon and half human, and he awakened his father's bloodline, the Frost Dragon. His name was Vitali.

"Are you guys sure you don't want to join Mourad? The bounty reward is quite decent just to kill nobody," Vitali brought it up again. He had been talking about Tang Shaoyang's bounty for quite a while, every chance he got.

"Put aside that we are in the same team in the second stage. I don't want to lose my life for nothing. I don't think Mourad and those people could kill Tang Shaoyang either no matter how many people he gathers," Castor answered truthfully.

All this time, he dodged the question by saying Tang Shaoyang was their former team. It would leave a bad aftertaste trying to kill their former teammate. But Vitali kept bringing this up, so he answered truthfully.

"Even with me and Ian?" Vitali pointed at himself, confident in his strength even against a Spirit Contractor. His confidence came from his power because he had the same crown as Tang Shaoyang.

Castor and Agnes exchanged glances, and then they turned toward Ian. They wanted to answer, but they did not want to speak on Ian's behalf. That might offend Ian as it was quite rude to compare Ian with Tang Shaoyang in front of the man himself.

"I think so. It's not just about his Spirit Contractor class, but also his bloodline. I saw him using True Dragon in the middle of the city. That means his bloodline is pure and might be even purer than you. And we don't know what other classes or even the talent he has as well. Let's not take the risk. Don't you want to strengthen your bloodline as well?"

That was right, they met with Mourad as well. Vitali was the only one interested in hunting Tang Shaoyang, but the three disagreed. They declined the invitation and moved further from Tang Shaoyang. That was the ideal decision not to be in the same area as Tang Shaoyang.

Agnes nodded in agreement that the risk of fighting Tang Shaoyang was too big, "I agree. That Mourad guy thinks they are the hunters, but in fact, they are the prey in Tang Shaoyang's eyes. He even killed seven Administrators by himself. Even if they managed to overwhelm Tang Shaoyang with numbers. I believe he could escape from them easily."

That was the reason Agnes did not want to join Mourad. She knew they would fail from the start even with more people. For someone like Tang Shaoyang, even if he lost against them, he could easily escape. That was the scariest part because if that happened, Tang Shaoyang would hunt them down. "But I was surprised when I saw Novoa following Mourad? What do you think happened between her and Tang Shaoyang for her to try to join Mourad as well? Does she have a grudge against Tang Shaoyang? But why did she agree to join our team if she has a grudge?" Castor could no longer hold his curiosity.

They met with Novoa back then, but she pretended not to recognize them for some reason.

"Oh... Does this Tang Shaoyang have a good look?" Vitali's gossipy heart was also curious. He seemed to have forgotten about what he brought up early and focused on the gossip instead.

"I would say he is indeed decent looking, and more importantly, he has this aura, a manly aura that makes a woman's heart flutter," Castor rubbed his chin, nodding his head as he recalled Tang Shaoyang. Agnes rolled her eyes at Castor for the nonsense.

"That's easy. Tang Shaoyang rejected this Novoa, and she was hurt by the rejection. That's why she tries to kill him now," Vitali was quite wild with his imagination despite not knowing Tang Shaoyang and Novoa, "Women, you know. You can't understand them."

"That's enough," Ian could no longer listen to the nonsense as he got up, "The break is over. Let's look for more people."

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Tang Shaoyang watched how the battle ended. It took them quite a while to finish the fight, around fifteen minutes. If not for the remaining people surrendered, it might take them twenty minutes or even more to wipe them.

By the time the fight finished, he looked up to check his point. He was currently sitting at 8487.5 points. He just killed a tenth of the participants for the last stage.

"Does someone manage to escape? I forgot to tell you guys to let one or two escape, so they would gather more people for me."

His method was proven effective. By letting Mourad escape, he wiped out a tenth of the participants already. He should let one or two run instead of killing them all.

His spirits and skeletons shook their heads. Their enemy was either killed or surrendered with zero escape.

Chapter 1572 It's Not A Battle Royal 1

Tang Shaoyang checked his spirits, and they looked happy and well after the fight. But he noticed some who suffered as well. He realized that not all his spirits were as overpowered as Doombringer or Vandir who took the fight as a walk in the park. Despite doing less better than the others, the wounded spirits shared the same excitement after the battle.

Vandir was the first one to approach him, coming next to him, "Can you recall to the Spirit World? There's something I need to fix."

That was a surprise to hear coming from Vandir. The skeleton must have figured out something and wanted to experiment something with his undead.

Along with Vandir, he recalled the wounded spirits for them to recover as well. They recovered faster inside the Spirit World than here, after all. He recalled half of the spirits, leaving just fourteen spirits.

It was not just some that suffered from the battle against more than a hundred God Ranks, but more than half. All of them were the low-rank Archaic Spirit. With that, he had a plan for his newly acquired materials. Upgrading his spirit to the intermediate rank Archaic Spirit might be the best choice.

Getting them all to the intermediate rank might be the way. They could help him further later in the God Realm. He did not know what awaited him in the God Realm, so better to be prepared.

With the remaining fourteen spirits, he formed two teams. A team led by Doombringer, and the other team was him with four spirits. He was unsure whether to have Doombringer lead the team, but he was the strongest among his summoned spirits. Vandir was busy with his experiment, and Avyn was still in a weakened state.

If he chose someone else to lead, this big dog would not listen to whoever he chose. Doombringer was the typical spirit that only listened to someone stronger than him or on the same level as him. What assured him was that Doombringer behaved well lately, different from the first time he formed a contract with the behemoth.

Maldros the dragonewt, Zara, Orlean the demon, and Karoen stayed with him. The remaining spirits left with Doombringer. The four were doing well despite being low-rank Archaic Spirits in the battle.

Tang Shaoyang looked around, considering the direction he should choose. The goal of the last trial was to gain points as much as possible. He did not remember the time limit, but if he wiped all one thousand participants, that would end the trial.

Observing through Chaos Eyes, he was looking at the trace of movement around. However, he could not find any traces aside from the trace of the people he just fought.

"I guess all participants nearby are the people we just fought," He picked the opposite direction from Doombringer.

Unlike before, he did not have Mourad who would gather people for him. He picked up his pace while keeping his Chaos Eyes up. There was no information on how big this place was, but since it was a battle royal. This place should be confined, maybe an island.

It took him fifteen minutes to find people. It was a party of two and both had a silver crown. The two were at the edge of his Chaos Eyes' range. He ran to the direction, as the two also ran toward his direction.

It looked like the two were running from something. He was unsure if this place also had monsters as obstacles. But not long after, he found out who chased them. It was not a beast, but two parties of four. It looked like the two parties teamed up and ganged up on another party.

"It feels like everyone is at a party..." He muttered. It was good for him. That meant each encounter would be at least a party of two. He did not need to look at them one by one.

The pursuer was like thirty meters behind. The two parties were laughing as they chased their target. As if they were having fun, chasing the two. Tang Shaoyang was confused as to why the two did not just surrender.

He signaled his spirit targets were ahead, telling them to be prepared for a fight. The four spirits nodded and split up. They took the detour to flank the two parties. Zara and Maldros went to the left side. Orlean and Karoen went to the right side.

As the distance between him and the party of two shortened, he stopped above the tree. Not long after that, the two people who tried to run away came into his sight. They were jumping between the trees, quick and agile. That might be the reason why they continued to run, they were confident to escape as long as they were in the forest. Side by side, they jumped from one tree to another. The two focused on the pursuers and did not notice someone was in front of them.

Tang Shaoyang used Heavenly Steps, Heavenly Ethereal Shift. His figure shifted and appeared in between the two. He grabbed their necks and slammed the two to the ground.

Boom!

The two people's eyes widened in shock, not expecting the ambush. They looked up at Tang Shaoyang in shock. Tang Shaoyang was about to activate his Heavenly Crushing Grasp, destroying their necks. But then the two were faster than him to surrender. The two were teleported out from his grasp, and he destroyed the ground into dust.

Tang Shaoyang clicked his tongue, missing his timing. That meant they lost two materials, "I should just crush their neck the moment I got them."

He raised his head and the two parties arrived before him. It was different from his previous encounter where people would surround him. They stood on the tree close to each other.

"It looks like someone is snatching our prey...." His playful voice quietened as he saw the crown above Tang Shaoyang's head. Not just the crown, but also the points next to the crown, 8587.5 points.

"I think we should run from him, guys."

The same man changed his tone, from playful to serious. It was barely an hour, but they met someone with more than eight thousand points. That meant the man in front of them had fought a lot and won each fight. With more than eight thousand points, that meant the man in front of them defeated the others quickly.

"I don't think we can escape," A female elf who was holding a bow said. Her eyes moved, scanning the area behind them. She found four presences from behind, "Four presences are hiding behind us."

"And if I am not wrong, this guy is the bounty target. That means the four behind us might be his spirits." The female elf concluded after a quick observation.

"It's unlucky to meet him this soon, or maybe we are the lucky ones guys. Look at his total points. Defeating him will put us at the top for sure, no? Maybe we should fight him instead," Another one suggested. That was the temptation of meeting someone with over eight thousand points.

Of course, Tang Shaoyang would not wait for them to finish their discussion. He opened the Heavenly Beast Gate, Heavenly White Tiger. Then he used Heavenly Steps, Heavenly Illusionary.

Chapter 1573 It's Not A Battle Royal 2

Tang Shaoyang figures turned into four as he rushed toward them. Each of them had the manifestation of the white tiger as well. As he moved toward the eight, each of them left afterimages as they rushed toward the eight. It looked like there were a lot of Tang Shaoyang.

The female elf who had good eyes tried to spot which the real one was. But she quickly found it was just impossible. It was the exact same copy, as if the other three were actually, "I can't spot the real one, or maybe all of them are real!" She warned her team.

"Okay, you can call me a coward, but I will not fight him!" The man who suggested running from Tang Shaoyang made up his mind, "I will find another way to acquire the Administrator Class!" After saying that, the man surrendered. It was followed by the female elf and his other two who were at the same party with him. The four surrendered before they tried to fight Tang Shaoyang.

"We will fight!" The leader of the second party raised his voice. He put himself forward and used transformation. The scales covered his whole, his eyes turned yellow, and his aura got stronger as well. Then he formed a green barrier around his team members.

His team members were also transformed. As the barrier formed around them, they were ready to launch their counterattack.

Tang Shaoyang's target was this party from the start. His right hand was covered in the dark gold heavenly energy. The energy swirled around on his entire right arm. Then he used the Heavenly Crushing Strike on the leader of the party. And of course, he applied Energy Domination Energy. As his fist was an inch away from the green barrier, the barrier was dispersed.

The party expected a big impact from the clash against the barrier. However, they were not expecting the barrier would crumble before the fist touched the barrier. There was no impact as the barrier looked like it was destroyed from the inside. Of course, the one who shocked me the most was the person who set up the barrier.

Four of them froze on the spot, and Tang Shaoyang's fist hit the chest of the party leader. His fist went through his chest to the back. Then he followed with his left hand, Heavenly Shattering Palm.

Splat!

The party leader's head shattered and died in the second attack. The three snapped out of the shock and tried to get away from Tang Shaoyang. What happened to them was too fast, and they were still shocked by how their party member died. Because of that, they forgot what the female elf told them earlier, there were four presences behind them.

Karoen, Orlean, and Maldros took one each, catching them from behind. They caught them defenseless and killed them in a split second. It was not a fight, but a hunt. That was the reason why Tang Shaoyang told them to split up. This was a hunt, the same thing as the first stage, but the target was not Calamity.

Tang Shaoyang checked his points after storing the bodies in his inventory. He got 905 points for killing six people and four surrenders. Unfortunately, there was no ranking list to see who was on the top. He was curious if he was on the top or if there was someone else above him.

He shrugged and motioned to his spirits to keep moving, "Let's continue the hunt, guys!"

Just as they were about to move, a notification rang in his head.

[The barrier will shrink in one minute! Stay inside the barrier or you will be disqualified from the trial!]

After the notification, a map appeared in front of him. The map showed his location. He was the red dot, and there was a big circle, but the circle was quite far from him. He was close to the center of the circle. Unfortunately, the map did not show the others' whereabouts. That would be helpful if he could see where the others were.

"If the battleground shrinks, then will we all end up in one small area? Should I just wait here?"

Eventually, the others would have to move to the center of the map. They would come to him as the barrier shrunk. There was no need for him to look for them, so letting them come to him might be a good idea.

[No! We need to end this trial quicker for Ophelius and Ophelia!] Avyn immediately protested.

Tang Shaoyang did not know how fast the barrier shrunk, but the battle royal might last more than one day if he waited for the barrier. It was maybe because a few hours might be too fast to conclude this long trial.

"Alright, let's continue the hunt then."

As he moved up, he warned his spirits not to cross out of the barrier if they ever saw the massive barrier. He did not know if his spirits were outside the barrier would count as him on the outside barrier as well. He would not take the chance or even try it. That was why he warned them before Doombringer did something stupid like chasing people to the outside barrier.

The trial continued and his points steadily increased. Most of the points came from Doombringer's team. He barely found participants from his side of the area.

At first, he took it slow, then he started to run around after not finding anyone for a long time. With his Chaos Eyes, he could not miss the others. At first, he found one or two parties in one hour. As he continued to look for more of them, he could not find them, at all. He tried to use the map that only

appeared once in one hour, trying to venture to the area where he had not gone yet. But it was futile, after nine hours, he could not find a single soul. Not even a monster or calamity, nothing.

It was awfully suspicious, and as he suspected, the circle shrunk slowly. After ten hours, the area in the circle was still big. Fortunately, Doombringer managed to find the other participants from the other side.

"This is so suspicious. How is it possible that I can't find anyone?"

It was so frustrating. He had been moving around for ten hours, but he only fought three parties. The first party, and two more after. Those three parties were the only parties he fought. Even until he finally found the barrier, right at the edge of the battleground, he could not find anyone.

It was as if the other participants knew his exact location and had been avoiding the range of his Chaos Eyes as well. He had no choice but to return to the center of the map.

On the way to the center of the map, he heard the unexpected in his head.

[Your spirit, Muri the Helion Cyclop was killed!]

[Your spirit, Suri the Helion Cyclop was killed!]

[Your spirit, Zuri the Elemental Cyclop was killed!]

[Your spirit, Nuri the Elemental Cyclop was killed!]

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[Your spirit, Muri the Helion Cyclop was killed!]

Tang Shaoyang stopped his steps, furrowing his brows. He never received a notification when his spirit died. The only way for him to know was when his spirit returned to the Spirit World and reported to him. That was how he found out if his spirit died during the summon.

He was about to speak to Muri through his telepathy, and then it was followed with another announcement.

[Your spirit, Suri the Helion Cyclop was killed!]

"Muri! Suri! Are you there!?" He called out, but there was no response.

[They are not here, Master!] It was Vandir who replied to him, not the two killed spirits.

Tang Shaoyang opened his status and checked the list of spirits to confirm the situation. With much less spirit in the list, than he originally had, it was easier to find if there were missing names. Muri and Suri were no longer on the list. Those announcements meant they were actually killed as a spirit. He was struck with a realization.

[Your spirit, Zuri the Elemental Cyclop was killed!]

[Your spirit, Nuri the Elemental Cyclop was killed!]

Hearing the two succession announcements, he immediately recalled the remaining spirits. Fortunately, the remaining spirits could be recalled.

[Why do you recall me!? We are in the middle of a fight! You are no—] Doombringer immediately protested, but Vandir cut him off.

[This is serious, Doombringer! Tell us what happened there!?]

Doombringer might see how the other spirits died, but he had not yet noticed those who died were not in the Spirit World. The behemoth was confused as it was unusual for Vandir to get this serious. The skeleton usually ignored his antics.

[You lost four spirits from your team. Do you see them here?]

Only then Doombringer realized four spirits were missing from the Spirit World. Those four spirits were the spirits in his team, the four one-eyed creatures, Cyclops. He realized why the atmosphere was so tense. That was the reason why his Master was not in the mood right now.

Doombringer shared what happened before he was recalled to the Spirit World. At first, he encountered one party at a time. It was smooth sailing from the start. They handled a party of four pretty easily with their number. Everything was fine until they could not find anyone for four hours. They could not find a single soul for seven hours, just like what happened to Tang Shaoyang's side.

It was not until they were surrounded by hundreds of people. Doombringer was excited when he found this massive group. As a spirit, there was no consequence for him dying. He would return to the Spirit World even though he would be weakened for one week. That was the reason he did not report back to Tang Shaoyang and fought the group.

They were getting overwhelmed, but they managed to kill a lot of people. It wasn't until too much for them, that he noticed one spirit was killed. He did not think that much until he was recalled back.

"How many are they?" Tang Shaoyang asked. The behemoth had not told him how many people were there.

Doombringer fell into silence, not because he did not want to answer his Master. It was because he did not know the actual number, and he was not bothered to count them, at all.

[It should be around six hundred or maybe even seven hundred.] Jovrick the former knight helped Doombringer. As someone who spent his life in the war, it was his habit to observe his enemy. His estimation should be around five to seven hundred people.

[They are from different races. While they conducted themselves like an army with a formation, they still lacked teamwork. That means they are not familiar with each other, which is why we could still kill more than a hundred of them. It seems like they are uniting for Your Majesty.]

Tang Shaoyang nodded as he finally figured out why he could not find any participants. It seemed the people from the Divine Church gathering the participants to kill him. The bounty was not enough, and they planned something else for him.

"Do you remember how Muri, Zuri, Nuri, and Suri get killed? Are they using specific weapons or skills?" That was the most important thing. It was to find out how they killed a spirit.

[Unfortunately, I didn't pay attention to how they died, Your Majesty. We are being overwhelmed by numbers, so I can't afford to split my focus.] Jovrick replied apologetically.

"Alright. I will talk with you later, Doom. For now, we have to think about how to fight them. I don't want to lose any of you."

It was no longer a battle royal, but him against all participants in the trial. Based on Jovrick's estimation. They clearly failed to convince all participants, but it was still an army of God Ranks. He could not underestimate them even though he might be stronger individually compared to each of them. But this was not a duel, but a war. It was not just about him this time.

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Meanwhile, on the other side, a massive group led by Bran, Donis, and Vitali. The three were the leaders of the killing Spirit Contractor operation. Bran and Donis were from the Nirvana Alliance, but they were not from the Divine Church.

Bran was from The Celestial, one of the strongest younger generations from the Nirvana Alliance. Donis was from The Metarnian Dragon Clan, one of many half-dragon clans from the Dragon Realm. Vitali was from The Lafreser Clan. The Clan was associated directly with one of the Guardian Dragons from the Dragon Realm.

Vitali joined them for a different reason, for excitement. But he used the excuse because of Tang Shaoyang's bloodline. The cursed dragon was one of a few dragon species that got kicked out of the Dragon Realm. It was common knowledge, and even the people not from the Dragon Realm knew it.

The three were looking at the map in front of them. That was right, they had access to a map, and they could see Tang Shaoyang's location. Not only that, they also had live surveillance on Tang Shaoyang all the time. They could see what Tang Shaoyang was doing right now.

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"Do we really need a plan to kill him?" Vitali looked at his two new comrades, confused. There was only one person, and they had hundreds of people. It should be enough to kill one God Rank even if that man was a Spirit Contractor.

On top of that, they had all the information needed to start the hunt. Tang Shaoyang only had around thirty spirits. Even though all the spirits were stronger than most God Rank, they still had the numbers. No matter how he saw it, there was zero chance Tang Shaoyang would wipe them out.

What was so funny about this situation was that Tang Shaoyang was just someone from the new world. A world that just recently integrated into the System. A man with no backing, nothing to be afraid of. At least, that was what he was told by Bran and Donis.

Someone like Tang Shaoyang could not have received any help or reinforcement from outside. There were no factions that were stupid enough to fight the Nirvana Alliance for just one person. And yet, Bran and Donis were being extra careful. There was no need to make things complicated, just surrounded him.

"Yes, we do!" Bran replied seriously, "He alone, managed to rout the third Vanquisher Legion of The Divine Church. He and his spirits did it. Do you know who led the Third Vanquisher Legion? It's Eol, Divine Dragon Eol. He killed Eol while he was still a Demi-God Rank. Don't underestimate him or you will pay it with your life! The Nirvana Alliance paid a lot for this assassination, we can't afford to fail."

It was the first time Vitali heard about that story. He knew Eol, she was quite famous in the Dragon Realm. Not just for her strength, but she was quite famous for a dragon who betrayed the last

Kankara'Xeo. She was known as a dragon to eradicate Kankara'Xeo from the universe. The most shocking part was that Tang Shaoyang killed her while he was still a Demi-God Rank.

"We should focus on that behemoth earlier. That one is quite a nasty spirit to fight," Donis revealed his regret, "He realized so soon that we can't kill them all."

"So what's the plan?"

"It's the cursed dragon bloodline... That means he masters more than one elemental power. I think we need to know more about him before we can make a plan. He used the Ice Elemental Power when he fought the girl from the Valentine Family, and he has dark fire as well... Do we have someone who is in the same batch as him for the first and second stages?"

Bran was not in a hurry to finish his mission. He wanted to plan everything thoroughly and make sure they succeeded.

"I know someone who is on the same team as him in the second stage. I will go call him," Vitali decided to follow whatever Bran and Donis planned.

The thing that he cared about the most was to meet and fight Tang Shaoyang. He wanted to know how strong the cursed dragon bloodline was compared to his Frost Dragon Bloodline. That was his main goal joining them. He left the tent and returned quickly.

Two people followed him, Agnes Neteri Iosava and Ian Carmen Lorentia, "What do you want now, Vitali?" Ian questioned Vitali, and his intonation was not so friendly to his friend.

"Don't be mad, Ian. It's not like we have other choices. I would rather fight Tang Shaoyang than fight them. On top of that, we don't know what they did, but we can't surrender as well," Vitali smiled, consoling his friend, "They have a question about Tang Shaoyang."

"His Elemental Power, huh?" Agnes smiled bitterly, realizing that Tang Shaoyang did not really use any elemental power aside from the dark fire. Tang Shaoyang was not going all out against the seven Administrators. It was proven how he never used other Elemental Powers aside from the dark fire. She told them what she knew about Tang Shaoyang which was nothing. She knew nothing about Tang Shaoyang.

"Didn't you say he killed seven Administrators? He must use something aside from his dark fire, right?" Bran was shocked after hearing the actual story.

Ian and Agnes shook their heads. They were forced to draw a contract to make sure both did not lie. The contract did not change in color, meaning they were being honest with them.

"What about the second stage?" Vitali was curious. It was a long stage, and Tang Shaoyang must use something else.

Agnes chuckled, "We only fought once in the second stage. Even so, our enemy immediately surrendered right after. The remaining teams we challenged also forfeited the match. We passed the second stage in less than half an hour after it started."

Bran let out a frustrated sigh, "Do we really have to throw bodies at him? I don't really like such a crude plan. It's not like we have any other choices, let's..."

He did not finish his words as the map projection became fuzzy. Not just the map, but also the surveillance picture of Tang Shaoyang as well. Before they could find out the cause, the map and the surveillance disappeared.

Right after the map and the surveillance disappeared, he felt a tremor on the ground. Not just him, but Ian, Agnes, Vitali, and Donis felt the tremor too. They exchanged glances, confused about what happened. Then they heard a commotion from outside, a loud commotion.

The four immediately went out of the tent to check. They quickly noticed the change, not just the atmosphere, but also the terrain. A lot of black trees and black leaves grew up all of a sudden, destroying their temporary camp.

Bran had a hunch about what happened, but he hoped what he thought was wrong. He turned toward Donis and Vitali, "Dragons are quite sensitive to energy. Can you check what happened?"

"I don't like this oppressive atmosphere. It's quite repulsive," Vitali's handsome face crunched into displeasure.

He and Donis listened to Bran and approached one black tree. They placed their hands on the trunk, and both immediately frowned. Donis turned toward Bran, "We are inside a domain. I think we are inside Tang Shaoyang's domain."

Chapter 1576 The Three Alliances

Tang Shaoyang did not move from where he was, leaning against the tree as he thought about how to face his enemy. He was trying to figure out what killed his spirits. If he managed to figure it out, he would fight the people who could actually kill the spirits, and his spirits would fight the others.

He and his spirits discussed it, and they agreed it might be an artifact. There might be an artifact that could kill a spirit. Especially for how long The Nirvana Alliance had been doing this. They must have developed something against the Spirit Contractor, and spirit-killing artifacts might be it.

"Even if we know how they kill the spirit, we can't tell who holds those artifacts. We can't be sure if they just have one or every one of them is holding one similar artifact."

[You have me, Master!] Kaiser spoke in his mind.

Hearing his first skeleton's voice, he still had the Skelly Family and his skeleton army.

[It's time to put a use to your army, Master. We might lose many or maybe all of the army, but I am confident we can take at least a quarter of them. We will be the vanguard. The spirits will support us from behind until we figure out which artifact can kill the spirit!]

That was a solid plan, but there was another issue. The other side seemed to know his and his spirits' location. That was the biggest issue. If not, how did they avoid him for so long and manage to surround his spirits? They must have something on him, tracking his location ever since they arrived here.

Information was the most important thing in the war. His whereabouts were crucial information. They seemed to realize the range of his Chaos Eyes as well. They perfectly avoided his surveillance and moved the people on this side to where his spirits were.

Deploying his skeleton army would just send them to their death. They would be prepared for his skeleton army, and it would be hard to eliminate a quarter of their enemy like what Kaiser told him.

[It's indeed hard to achieve a win if the enemy has a vision on us all the time, Master. We need to figure out how to get rid of their vision on us.] Skelly1, the skeleton who had evolved into Duke Skeleton from Earl Skeleton. Skelly was the commander of the skeleton army, not Kaiser.

"It seems like you are in trouble, my friend," A familiar voice resounded. It was not his spirit or his skeleton, but he recognized the voice.

Tang Shaoyang remembered whose voice it was, Arion. The God Rank he met in the Dimensional Tower, and also the God Rank who helped him to get a truce with the Nirvana Alliance for the Divine Church's figurehead's daughter.

"I noticed the Nirvana Alliance's big movement, so I went to check it, and I saw your name. They are quite smart not to break the truce. All their people here are no longer part of the seven factions in the Nirvana Alliance. They are not breaking the truce because those people are not related to them. Quite smart, I would say."

Tang Shaoyang was at a loss for words and did not know how to respond to Arion. It could be said they were not friends, just an acquaintance since they never met. He did Arion's bidding, helping Arion with the experiment in return for a reward. That was their relationship until Arion came on his own to mediate the conflict between him and the Divine Church. He could never ask for help from Arion, so he did not know how to respond to Arion.

"Don't be reluctant to ask for my help, my friend. You are in this situation because of me as well, and they tried to do something behind my back despite my interference. I would like to screw them over too, but my help this time is not for free."

Arion could read what was in Tang Shaoyang's head. He made it into a deal instead of helping Tang Shaoyang.

"I am telling you it's not just the Nirvana Alliance. But there's another alliance's involvement. You have made quite a lot of enemies since our last time. They are together to screw you over, but they have different goals."

"Three Alliances are working together, Nirvana is of course one of them. There's also Gods Alliance. That one is quite nasty, The God's Order, The God's Justice, and the True God. An alliance with just three factions, but they are at the top of the food chain. The God's Order will make the law, the God's Justice will deliver the punishment if you break their law or you hurt their people, and they choose their leaders from the True God faction."

"What did you do to them? Ah, they want your thing, and... What did you actually do? They seemed to be pissed at you that they want to erase anything related to you from the universe? They sent a hundred rookies from God's Justice in this trial. They are the elite, they still send them despite knowing the risk of breaking the System's event."

Tang Shaoyang did not know about the God Alliance, God's Justice, and the True God. The only thing he knew was the God Order, where Oby was from.

"Ah, I think they are pissed because I killed their seven Administrators. I killed them in the first stage because they tried to take something from me. What about the third alliance?"

Tang Shaoyang wanted to know who his enemies were, so he could pay them back properly later on. He would not set them free after they tried to kill him.

There was a pause when Arion was about to mention the third alliance in the scheme.

"Oho, the third one is quite interesting. I don't really need to worry that you will be killed here. No matter what happens, you are safe. The third alliance is Nebula. They want you to get cornered, and they will come to save you. They want to be your hero. Interesting, isn't it? They want you to join them."

"What do you think? Do you want to let it flow just like they want? Or do you want to hear my deal first? You will be fine even if you don't take my deal because the Nebula Alliance has a meticulous plan to save you from the other two Alliances."

Chapter 1577 A Deal With Old Friend 1

Tang Shaoyang fell silent after hearing what Arion said. He proceeded with the new information in his head. The Nebula Alliance's involvement surprised him. It was an Alliance where Ira came from. The same person who told him about the bounty in his head.

After what happened in this Trial of God, he could not fully trust anyone anymore. Oby, who he thought was a good guy, stabbed him in the back. This Arion might be the same. But again, it was not like he had other choices.

"So what's the deal?"

"Hohoho... It seems like you have gone through a lot. I sense hesitation from you. It hurts my feelings, but I understand where your hesitation is coming from."

Arion noticed the hesitation with how long Tang Shaoyang took to answer. But he was not offended by it.

"Alright, here's the deal. They have an eye on you. Those participants have the map of this battleground and also a vision of you because those Administrators exploit their authority to help the Nirvana Alliance. I will cut off their connection so they can't use the same exploit. It's not much, but it will be a fair fight between you and them."

Tang Shaoyang correctly guessed that they had a vision of him. It was something he believed so from the start. Now he figured out how they had the vision on him, and he could not cut off the vision unless he received external help. Arion was his choice.

"What do you want in exchange?" It was a deal. That meant Arion expected something from him. Arion might ask him to help with his experiment, and he did not mind that.

"What I want is information. How do you manage to tame the calamity? I want calamity because it might help me with my creation. It's an equal exchange, right?"

The previous experiment was related to the Void Creature. Tang Shaoyang understood why Arion was interested in the calamity. But there was something suspicious, how Arion found out about the calamity.

He did not think that the people who had an eye for Ophelius and Ophelia would divulge the information about them. They wanted to keep it secret so no one could know there was someone who managed to tame a calamity.

"I told you. I did some digging after noticing the Nirvana Alliance's big movement. That was how I found out about your calamity. The God Alliance did not just want you dead, but also wanted your pets."

"I don't mind telling you how to get them, but I don't think it's an equal deal. The reason I want your help is that I don't want to lose my spirits. But the deal you offer does not offer that assurance, at all. And I have still to fight them myself with just minus that they no longer have assistance from outside. That's never a good deal to me. I think I can get something better for the first method to tame a calamity."

Tang Shaoyang did not accept the deal even though he really needed assistance to fight hundreds of God Ranks. If what Arion said was the truth, he would not die here. There was no reason for him to accept the deal after knowing The Nebula Alliance's scheme.

Dying was the last thing he was afraid of because he still had another five lives. He was confident in defeating them with three lives if the worst came true and he lost all his spirits. The probability of him dying here was small, but what he cared about was the spirits. Losing them would be a big loss for him.

He would need another similar trial as the first stage trial. The only way for him to get stronger was to get more strong spirits. Maybe he would find one or two classes that would help him, but spirit army would be his strongest card.

"Now you put it that way. It is indeed an unfavorable deal for you. Hmmm... Let me see what I can do for you."

Arion fell silent for quite some time. It seemed like he really did look for something to assist Tang Shaoyang.

Meanwhile, Tang Shaoyang was having a discussion with his spirits in his head. He did not say it out so Arion would not hear him. His discussion might worsen their relationship. Because of what happened with the Nebula Alliance and Oby, he could not bring himself to trust Arion like before.

He did not know what Arion planned behind him. This might be his biggest drive to get stronger until today. He wanted to crush any scheme with just his strength. He wanted to be strong enough that no scheme worked on him. That was one way to counter any devious scheme behind him.

The conclusion after having a discussion with his spirit was that he could trust Arion, but did not blindly trust Arion. Always questioned Arion's information and planned for the worst. It could be said that his trust in Arion was seventy percent. He should not forget that there was thirty percent that Arion would stab him in the back at any moment.

That was what Vandir told him because what Arion had done so far was helping him. It would be foolish not to trust someone who helped him a few times just because of Oby and Nebula. But always prepared for the worst.

Arion returned after eight minutes of silence. He was not aware of the discussion that happened in Tang Shaoyang's head.

"I have a few things for you, but before that. I have a question for you. Do you perhaps have an Absolute Domain? It's a skill you get for combining more than five different domains. The skills will undergo a fusion once you reach a God Rank, so do you have Absolute Domain?"

"It's one of the rarest skills. You can only get the skill if you have more than five domains before you reach God Rank. Try to manually fusion the domain, no one can make it happen. That's why Absolute Domain is one of the rarest skills in the world. And I think you will have one because of the nature of your class."

Chapter 1578 A Deal With Old Friend 2

Tang Shaoyang was surprised that Arion managed to guess one of his skills but did not answer Arion immediately. With the thirty percent doubt in Arion, there was no way he would tell Arion his skill. The reason he did not want to answer was also because his fusion had become The Absolute Chaos Domain, not just the Absolute Domain. There might be a difference from the normal Absolute Domain.

"It's fine if you don't want to answer me because I already know the answer. If you don't know why I ask about the Absolute Domain that means you haven't tried the skill yet. Use your Absolute Domain. That will give you a big advantage against them. That's the first additional information for our deal."

"I have looked into the weapon that can kill the spirit. That's an item developed by the Nirvana Alliance because they are obsessed with killing people of the same class as yours. You don't have to worry about all of them having one of those items because it still could not be mass-produced yet."

"Each leader from each faction has one of them, and each faction in the Nirvana Alliance has ten of them. At most only fifty-four people have the spirit-killing artifact because their leader would not lend their weapon to subordinates. However, I doubt the Nirvana Alliance would lend more than ten of their precious items to the rookies even if they are elite."

"You also don't need to worry about the artifact as a bow and arrow. They can't apply it to bow and arrow yet. The feature of the artifact was gold colored because they are made of Glavius Ore. The reason they could not make it to bow and arrow is because of the inscription. You will notice the inscription on the weapon at a glance because the sword or spear is fully covered in that deep red inscription. You can target the people who hold those artifacts and take the artifacts from them. Losing those weapons will be a big loss for them"

"And I have a gift for one of your skeletons. You choose one of your skeletons because I can give them a bloodline. That's right, it's similar to your Draconic Skeleton, but it's not a dragon bloodline. It's Hydra Bloodline. We will do the same ritual the Ruby Dragon did to one of your skeletons if you agree to my deal. How is it? Are you interested in making a deal with me?"

Tang Shaoyang had heard about Hydra, but he did not know anything about it or even met with one. But it did not matter how strong this Hydra was. He was willing to take the deal if it could make him stronger and add more odds on him to kill those people.

"Alright. I will take the deal, but let me discuss it with my skeletons who will take the bloodline."

He let the Skelly Family decide themselves who would take the bloodline. At the same, he asked what this Hydra was to his spirits, giving the Skelly Family a picture of what kind of creature Hydra was. If it was up to him, he would get his second skeleton, Keeper, to take the bloodline. But the Skelly Family knew the best who was the most suitable to take the bloodline.

The discussion was quick as the Skelly Family came up with a decision. Skelly8 would take the bloodline. The reason was that he was the assassin skeleton. Skelly8 was the Mystical Assassin

Skeleton, and Hydra was known for its deadly poison. Combining Skelly8's mist with the poison would be a deadly combination. That was the reason why they chose Skelly8 to take the bloodline even though Skelly8 wanted Keeper to take the bloodline.

Tang Shaoyang summoned Skelly8, a gray skeleton that was covered in mist. Skelly8's figure was blurred because of the mist around him.

"Alright, let's make the deal. To show you a good faith. We will proceed with the bloodline ritual first. Don't misunderstand, it will be different from your ritual, but the same one with your Draconic Skeleton."

"I know," Tang Shaoyang nodded.

"Alright, before we proceed with the ritual. I need to cut off the connection first. We don't have that much time. If we take too long, the System might interfere with the trial. You might miss your Administrator Class if that happens."

Tang Shaoyang nodded, "What should I do?"

"You need to use your Absolute Domain in three. You will need that so they will not interrupt the ritual. Ready? 1... 2... 3..."

Tang Shaoyang activated his [Absolute Chaos Domain]. It was different from the domain he used so far. The usual domain would bring them into a different space that belonged to him. But this domain turned the area around him into his domain.

As soon as he activated the skill, a massive tree appeared in front of him. It grew up from the ground. The tree's trunk and leaves were black, and it grew up to fifty meters. It was so big that I might need more than ten people to circle the tree. It was just that big.

The big tree in front of him was not the only tree, the smaller trees grew up sparsely as well. The ground started to crack and let out hot steam. While he was checking on his domain, he finally realized why the domain would give him an advantage.

The battleground had become his domain, which meant he could sense all living beings in his domain. He could locate where the other participants gathered, their exact location. Not only that, the best thing was that he could shape the battleground to his liking. He could control the wind, the ground making them muddy or maybe creating boulders or even making an earth wall.

Arion fell silent for like fifteen seconds, then his voice returned, "Alright. I have cut off their vision, not just your fellow participants, but also the Administrator. We need to do this quickly."

As soon as he said that, an altar fell from the sky with a boom. It shocked Tang Shaoyang that he almost destroyed the altar. Similar altar to the Ruby Dragon one. There was the nine-headed Hydra statue in the middle. The intricate formation as well as the intricate inscription.

Tang Shaoyang was about to tell Skelly8 to go to the altar when he sensed a dangerous presence from above. He looked up and saw a pair of big green eyes, looking down at him. The eyes were sinister and sharp, the gaze would make one suffocate. That was what he felt at first, but he adapted quickly and was relieved from the pressure.

"We must be quick, Human! Tell your skeleton to stand in front of my statue!"

Chapter 1579 A Deal With Old Friend 3

Not just the gaze, but his voice also sounded sinister. He could not think that someday he would hear such a voice. But he put his useless thoughts away and told Skelly8 to stand in front of the statue.

As soon as Skelly8 stood in front of the statue, the statue's eyes shone green, as if the statue came alive. Then the eight heads released dark green liquid. It looked like the type of Hydra's blood. The eight heads filled the formation with dark green blood.

The carved formation was filled with blood, and the blood ended in one bowl in front of Skelly8. Then the formation shone, and the last head which was the ninth head bit into Skelly8's skull. Its teeth sunk into the skull, but it did not break the skull.

"Don't fight back, you fool!" The Hydra raised his voice once it noticed Skelly8 was about to counter the statue, "Just accept it! We don't have much time to redo the ritual, you dumb!"

That stopped Skelly8 from fighting back instantly.

[Can I kill that thing after the ritual is over, Master?]

That was the telepathy message from Skelly8. He did not know his skeleton was that petty and quite ruthless. Skelly8 wanted to kill the Hydra after being called a fool and dumb.

Before he could answer Skelly8, the altar was suddenly filled with the green gas. The blood on the formation turned into green gas, enveloping Skelly8. Tang Shaoyang tried to see through Chaos Eyes, but once more, he failed to see through the green gas. Just like Skelly8's mist, it got thicker and thicker and he lost sight of Skelly8.

This might be the crucial moment for Skelly8, and he directed his focus on his enemy. They were still on the other side of the map, far from him. It seemed like they were confused with his domain.

The ritual went smoothly as it did not take two minutes for the gas to thin out. He thought the gas was dispersed on its own, but not. Skelly8 absorbed the dark green gas into his frame. Soon he got to see Skelly8 again, and it was not the same Skelly8 anymore.

Kaiser's frame changed with the horn, tail, and wing. However, there was no change in Skelly8. Skelly8 was still at the same height, with no horn or wing or even tailbone, but his gray-colored frame changed into green. Not just green, but also it had a scale-like pattern. It looked like Skelly8 acquired a scale on its frame, but he knew it was not.

"The ritual is success..." The Hydra sounded speechless, "I don't know that a skeleton can also inherit a bloodline. This is really new to me." It seemed the Hydra did not know there was a precedent before Skelly8.

Tang Shaoyang did not bother to tell the Hydra about Kaiser. But he paid more attention to Skelly8. The mist also changed color, it turned dark green as well. Even with a glance, he could tell the mist was poisonous.

If before Skelly8 looked mysterious with the mist, now his Skelly also looked sinister with the green mist. Then he checked Skelly8's new evolution.

[Skelly8 - Vipera Hydrozo Skeleton]

Those were new words in his vocabulary. He was not speechless anymore with those weird names. If he could go to another world, why could such a weird name not exist?

"I am done here, Arion. Don't forget your deal!" After saying that, the eyes disappeared from the sky, and the altar was also gone.

"It's time to fulfill your deal, Tang. We don't really have much time here." Arion went straight to the point.

"It's a skill called [Demonification]. I used that skill on Rank 9 Calamity Sea Dragon in the first stage, and it evolved into Demonic Dragon Calamity. So basically, I turned them into a demon and also advanced them to the Unique Rank. As for why they became my companions, I don't know about that. Maybe it's because of the skill, I don't have a precise answer for that."

"Ah, I got the skill after my integration with a demon. I got the skill because I became a demon, partly. You should be able to figure out yourself how to obtain the skill, no? Unfortunately, there's no beast or monster in this area, or I can demonstrate the skill for you."

Tang Shaoyang was generous with his deal as well since Arion was also generous, giving his skeleton a bloodline. He told Arion how he got the skill as well. Of course, the most important thing was the information regarding the spirit-killing artifact. They could target people with the artifact and reduce the risk of losing his spirits.

"I can drop you a beast right now, but I don't think we have the time for that. My time here is due, but I will trust you in this one. See you in the God Realm, Tang!"

Tang Shaoyang waited for a while, ensuring Arion was no longer around. He had his eyes also on his enemies. There was no movement from the other side. It seemed like the domain made them a lot more cautious. That was good as that meant he had more time to prepare a surprise for them as well.

He clapped his hand and said, "Let's give them a surprise, shall we?"

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Bran, Donis, and Vitali gathered the important people around them, "We lost our vision and map on Tang Shaoyang. Not only that, we lose contact with the Administrator as well. That means we are alone right now."

Bran did not hide the information from them even though he forced them to work for him. He was not afraid these people would betray him because more than half were people from the Nirvana Alliance and also the people they hired to kill Tang Shaoyang. They had the number advantage if there were people who wanted to be funny.

"Before we could discuss our plan, does anyone know what kind of domain we are in?"

Bran, Donis, and Vitali did not know anything about this kind of domain.

Someone raised her hand, her hand was slender and smooth, milky white. At one glance, people could tell it was a woman. Everyone turned toward her, and the hand belonged to a pretty lady. The same lady who asked Tang Shaoyang to form a party with her.

"It's called Absolute Domain. This is also my first time encountering the Absolute Domain, but my father knows a lot about this skill. It's one of the rarest domains in the world. It's a domain skill you get if you have more than five different domains before you reach God Rank. Instead of taking us

into his space just like a usual domain. Absolute Domain turned a vast area into a domain, and we are in his domain now."

Chapter 1580 Turning The Tide 1

Bran and Donis did not know what Absolute Domain looked like, but they knew about the Absolute Domain. They just never encountered it once before. That was why he did not know it was the Absolute Domain. Most of them knew about it, but this was their first experience fighting someone with Absolute Domain.

"Why do you guys look so grim? I don't think Absolute Domain is great or anything. We can just drag him into our domain. That will solve the problem, no?" Vitali did not understand they were so concerned about a domain when they could counter the Absolute Domain.

Agnes shook her head and looked at Donis and Bran who were more aware of their situation, "I now really doubt our chance against Tang Shaoyang. I thought with him, there's a chance for us. But he doesn't even know anything about Absolute Domain and..." She did not finish her words and continued, "It's better to fight Tang Shaoyang another time unless you have the answer for this Absolute Domain?"

"Why don't you finish your words, woman!?! And what?" If it was just four of them, the original party. Vitali would not care what Agnes said, but she said it in front of Bran and Donis. He knew she was implying that he was dumb and ignorant, and they had no chance to win against Tang Shaoyang.

"Just because I was friendly before, doesn't mean you can say anything that you want about me! With a single word from me, my clan will eradicate your faction!"

Agnes was not scared by the threat. She laughed when she heard the last part, shaking her head, "You have convinced me to give up the fight. Are you going to bring up your clan when Tang Shaoyang beat the shit out of you? Do you think he will spare your life just because you are from the Dragon Realm? He wiped out the Sorc Clan's people, he killed the people from the White Mystery, he almost wiped out the Vigamaur Dgaror's members, also one administrator, and he killed seven administrators from God's Order. Do you think he cares about your clan?"

After finishing her words, Agnes tried to surrender. Since someone disrupted the map and the vision of Tang Shaoyang. She thought the trial's system returned to normal after the Administrator sabotaged the system. She could not surrender as the option was made unavailable before.

But then her face changed after getting the return notification after she tried to give up the trial.

[You can't surrender to the Death Royal without your enemy's agreement!]

It was no longer a battle royal, but a death royal. The trial was more dangerous than the Battle Royal. As the notification said, she could not surrender unless she engaged in a fight with someone, and that someone agreed to let her surrender.

That was the condition to surrender in the Death Royal. She must be in a fight with someone, but the chance of her opponent allowing her to surrender was almost zero. If she had the advantage against her enemy, she would not let them surrender. Killing them will benefit her more as that would raise her level.

"Okay, and I think we are fucked. We think our person does not have a backer just because he is from a new world, but we are wrong. Not that he has a backer, but his backer has more influence than the actual overseer in this trial. Tang Shaoyang's backers not only got rid of our advantage but also changed the trial into a Death Royal!"

The Administrator could exploit their authority and help the participants, but they did not have the authority to change the content itself. It was the System that decided to pick Battle Royal, and the Administrator could not change it. They were here to manage the trial.

"Try to surrender, and you will know what I mean."

Confused for a moment, Bran tried to surrender. His face changed when he read the return notification. Someone was most powerful enough to know to exploit the System itself. It was taboo, but it was possible. Because if the System found out who the culprit was, the System would throw that person to the Dimensional Tower. The fact that this person went this far, meant his relationship with Tang Shaoyang was not that shallow for this person to take such a big risk.

Vitali was curious and he tried to surrender as well. He understood the trial had changed, but there was no reason for them to panic. Regardless of the trial, their goal would not change. There was no difference now and before. They could not surrender.

"What now? It does not matter whether this is a Royal Battle or Death Royal. It does not change our goal, does it? We still fight Tang Shaoyang. Are you afraid that he may have our previous exploit? Does it really matter? Even if he could see and know where we are, we still outnumber him!"

Agnes let out a sigh. She thought Vitali was arrogant because he had the strength and the knowledge to back it up. However, she realized how ignorant Vitali was. How could he not see how dire the situation they were in?

'Ah, right. He is ignorant of many things even for the Absolute Domain. What do I expect from him?'

"Tang Shaoyang does not need our exploit to know where we are. We are in his domain, and so he knew where we were the moment he activated the Absolute Domain," Ian Carmen Lorentia took the job of explaining the Absolute Domain to Vitali.

"Your solution to fight Absolute Domain will not work, never, Vitali. It's called Absolute Domain for a reason. It's Absolute, so you can't get rid of the domain with your domain. Maybe you could if you also have Absolute Domain."

"Okay, now he has the advantage, but it still does not change anything, Ian. We can still overwhelm him with numbers! We are still on top! Why are you so afraid of him? This is not the Ian that I know," Vitali truly did not understand why Ian and the others were so afraid of Tang Shaoyang.

"Oh, it changes everything, Vitali. The fact he knows where we are, that changes everything, Vitali. You say we can face him with numbers, but will he allow that when he knows where we are and our exact numbers? He knew where we were, all of us. He could ambush and kill us one by one, dwindling our numbers until he wiped us out. That's what he will do instead of fighting all of us at once."

"Also, advice as a friend. You need to broaden your knowledge about Spirit Contractor. If you read their history even just a little bit, you will know how fearful they are. Why do you think Bran and Donis tried to reduce the number of spirits first instead of facing Tang Shaoyang directly?"